

CENTRE OF CRIMINOLOGY

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THE SUCCESSFUL PAROLE VIOLATOR

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charge to them.

NOTES & OTHER CLUTTER

Effective immediately, the Transition Society, the magazine's back-up body of ex-cons and other concerned citizens will begin helping any inmates who want to process individual rights cases in the courts or wherever. It's taken some time to get together the legal people who will be handling such cases and the work will be done out here on a voluntary basis.

We haven't got the resources to handle appeals for criminal cases, but we can help out in civil liberties and rights things, things like bad treatment and censorship, etc.

All that's necessary is to send us a letter letting us know as many details as possible, including names and addresses of any street people who might be involved. Nothing will be done without permission of the con(s) involved.

We are setting up a separate little fund to cover incidental costs of this thing, and anyone who wishes to donate can do so ... but guys who want some help should remember that there is no charge to them.

We're still looking for an economical way to print Transition, so we must continue our plea to everyone to bear with us awhile longer. The previous two issues weren't too bad but they cost an arm and a leg. Eventually we'll get this hassle worked out, to the sorrow of our maligners and the joy of our well-wishers. The latter outnumber the former. We're also continuing our hunt for a new editor. There aren't too many people to pick from in Saskatoon, and we're trying to persuade someone to come here. By the end of the summer we should get lucky.

Since we're moving into advertising anyway we've decided to allot space for inmate want ads. Inmates can advertise for anything they want, within reason and the law, from jobs wanted to pen pals to hobbywork for sale to whatever. These ads are free, and if you don't want your name printed we can route your replies through our address here. Just write up your ads and mail them to Judy Green, c/o Transition. Firms and agencies enquiring about ads can reach us by writing Judy too.

Beginning with the July issue we shall be printing a civil legal information column written by Al White whose replies to inmates' inquiries will be based on the advice of Transition's legal advisors. Inmates desiring to use this column to obtain information should drop a line to Al White, c/o Transition.

Letters

Dear Editor:

The recent issue of Transition (March-April) leaves much to be desired. Not from a general content point of view, but in regards to what appears to be a genuine attempt (conscious or unconscious) at instilling a fear among the general inmate population that the psychiatrist could become the dictator of his chance at freedom and his wish to pass time as "easy" as possible.

John Klein's critical article, attacking the recent report to the Solicitor General on Psychiatric facilities within the Penitentiary Service, appears to be a good example of "striking the fear of God (or should I say, psychiatry)" in men! His attack appears to be based on a case of the "Sociologist Syndrome", which tends to permeate the souls of some members of that profession who get lost in the world of academia and base their opinions on what they read rather than what they see and experience.

The issue of whether the psychiatrist will have "...control over the lives of inmates", even beyond the parameters of the psychiatric facility appears to be founded on speculation rather than evidence. Furthermore, it would appear logical that society receive the most comprehensive

estimation of an inmate's propensity for recidivism before he or she is released back into the community. If this means providing a psychiatric examination as part of the overall evaluation for some inmates, then let it be done, remembering that it is one evaluation among a myriad of other reports. After all, we all demand the best possible medical workup when it comes down to diagnosing our own physical illnesses.

If one wants to get "picky" and describe psychiatric interventions as "coercive treatment" then let's not be overly tunnel-visioned in our approach. Such a term could be applied to the whole area of treatment and classification within the Penitentiary Service if one wanted to. The current recidivism rate within prison supports the non-successful nature of treatment programs (psychiatric or not) currently being offered in our correctional institutions.

I agree with Mr. Klein's implied plea for more research into the efficacy of various psychiatric treatment modalities. The lack of such in the past, however, appears to be more a result of work overload rather than fear of reprisal by constructive critics. Furthermore, medical men and women are not trained in the modality of research and maybe a constructive suggestion might be to provide them with training in such areas while they are being educated and before they face the massive caseloads placed on them in a regular practice.

I do not see the rationale behind what appears to be a put-down of an honest discrepancy admitted to on behalf of the psychiatrists. This is in

regards to the Dangerous Sexual Offender rulings. This whole area of law appears to have become a battle of lawyers and psychiatrists, pitting the best of both sides to seek out a winner. The accused being the victim of the onslaught. Nevertheless, the responsibility doesn't entirely rest on the psychiatrists' shoulders. Public opinion, legal competency and judicial integration share a good portion of the responsibility.

Finally Mr. Klein's rather premorbid prediction that psychiatry will become the "Big Brother" type overseer of an inmate's successful release or not appears to be based on fear rather than facts. I am sure he will not disagree that a certain number of inmates require some form of psychiatric service to deal with blatantly obvious psychiatric disorders. Thus, the need for specialized facilities to deal with this population and the resultant proposal to establish new centers within the C.P.S. If we don't, the prisons will be left to cope with these individuals within an environment already wrought with dissatisfaction and resentment.

So, come on, Mr. Klein, get out of the academic climate for awhile and into the realities of the "System" and society's expectations, which all correctional officials must shoulder in evaluating a man's fitness for early release or not. Some of your ideas are good, but they lack a broader perspective; you seem to be suffering from the same symptomatology as that of which you accuse psychiatrists. Do we wait for years of research

to hopefully validate what is the best route to take, or do we act now and try and provide a service which experience has shown to be a necessity right at this time?

Christopher R. Walker,
Criminologist--Working in
Psychiatry

The Author Replies

Mr. Walker's letter represents another more in an old, tired, and sometimes dangerous game. Philosophers refer to it as committing the genetic fallacy---arguing on the basis of the source rather than the validity of what is said. I may suffer from a type of myopia which Walker terms the "Sociologist Syndrome" for I do spend a fair amount of time reading. I have often found it to be a source of pleasure, insight, and stimulation. Apparently this view is not shared by those who choose instead to confuse fact with value, blind faith, and ignorance.

If the purpose of my article were that of "striking the fear of God" (did Walker make a Freudian slip in equating God with psychiatry in his letter?) in inmates who might be sent to RMC's, then it was an unnecessary effort and an insult to the intelligence of many inmates. Inmate Representative Committees were voicing many of my concerns to the Solicitor General before my article was published.

Walker's claim that "The issue of whether the psychiatrist will have '...control over the lives of inmates', even beyond the parameters(sic) of the psychiatric facility appears to be founded on speculation rather than evidence" is absurd. If he would take time to read the Report of the Solicitor General's Board of Psychiatric Consultants and some of the statements made by members of this Board, he would see just how absurd his claim is.

The assertion that a psychiatric report on whether an inmate should be released, "is one evaluation among a myriad of other reports" sounds comforting. Unfortunately, there is not much correspondence between this assertion and reality. If Walker does not believe that the mystique of "Doctor knows best" exists in our society, he need only read the Report of the Advisory Board of Psychiatric Consultants to see that some practitioners are convinced that they do know best and believe that they can get away with saying so. This would not be too much of a problem if it could be shown that psychiatrists are accurate predictors of recidivism. Unfortunately, this is simply not the case. Research on large-scale applied efforts to predict behaviour from personality inferences has shown them to be strikingly and consistently unsuccessful (see W. Mishel, Personality and Assessment). Whether one will recidivate cannot be readily or accurately predicted because it is dependant, in part, upon changes in unpredictable conditions which are external to the prison or RMC.

The justification for coercive psychiatric treatment on the grounds that prison treatment is coercive serves as a smokescreen which hides pro-

found ethical and moral issues. Whether you go to bed with a \$5 street-walker or a \$100 call girl, you are still going to bed with a whore. In addition, the track record when using coercive psychiatric treatment modalities has been anything but good. In fact, some patients have been found to get worse under such conditions.

I am heartened to see that Walker agrees with me as to the need for more research. However, is it simply overwork which has caused the dearth of hard, scientific research? At least some forensic psychiatrists cannot be too overworked since they have found time to produce a prodigious literature, much of which --- as noted by even the American Psychiatric Association --- is propagandistic in nature. As well, the claim that "medical men and women are not trained in the modality of research" if true, is disturbing since a recommendation in the psychiatrists' report is that they be the ones to evaluate the effectiveness of the RMC's.

"I do not see the rationale behind what appears to be a put-down of an honest discrepancy admitted to on behalf of the psychiatrists" in respect to some of those whom have been classified as Dangerous Sexual Offenders. HOW CALLOUS! This is not a nice little game we are playing where we simply overlook honest mistakes and say "better luck next time". DSO's are serving sentences of preventive detention (in effect, life sentences!)

Is my "rather premorbid prediction that psychiatry will become the 'Big Brother' type of overseer of an inmate's successful release" based upon "fear rather than facts"? Read the psychiatrists' report and page 6 of the minutes of the

October 1, 1971, meeting of the Advisory Board of Psychiatric Consultants and see for yourself.

Walker appears to assume that there exists unanimity among psychiatrists (not to mention those who are serving on the Solicitor General's Advisory Board) as to the need for the type of facilities which are presently being established. If this is his belief, then he is in error. Dr. Bruno Cormier, a member of the Board, has expressed strong opposition to the planning of the RMC's on a number of grounds (see page 5 of the minutes of the July 23, 1971, meeting of the Advisory Board.)

Perhaps the most distressing aspect of Walker's letter is the assumption found in the last paragraph which in effect reads, "even if we do not yet know what we are doing, we should go ahead and do something." To honestly think that we know what we are doing and to act on that basis is one thing; to admit that we do not know what we are doing and then to proceed to tinker with men's lives on that basis is utterly irresponsible!

John F. Klein,
University of Alberta.



More Mail:

This is my response to the comment on Stony Mountain in your March-April issue (Hacksaw, p. 40)

My first thought reaction to our not being "community-wise" was "What about the fact that we have University here?" We have a beautiful set-up here at Stony. We get real university credits, get our courses paid for, are considered on campus, everything! Don't we have an image? Community-wise Stony?

A fellow student came over and read over my shoulder. Gave me a dirty look. I said, "What's wrong?"

HE: "Administration doesn't recognize us,!"

I : "Sure they do. Anybody who wants to just signs up and they get accepted, unless they don't have any education."

HE: "Yeah, they pay for the courses but they don't consider us students. We must work in a shop. If we don't we won't get canteen and they'll charge us for refusing to work. The most recognition we got was when they allowed us Thursday afternoon, 1:30 to 4:00, two and a half hours for extra study for those taking two courses."

Actually, I've had this kind of conversation quite a few times. I play stupid (pro-administration) to see what happens. The courses we take are the same benefit as outside university (credit hours). The difference is that we only have two courses at any one time. The number of hours needed in both courses is reached inside three months. That means cramming studies because exams are close to each other and each day we get new material with little time in between to assimilate, never mind reading stuff not covered by the lectures. After a lecture we take our notes with us to lunch, eat, then study for the rest of that hour. In the afternoon, we students go our separate ways to work in (related to the courses, of course) the different shops. An afternoon spent sewing patches on mailbags, painting chairs, welding beads on goal posts, or other trade work, helps us assimilate the morning's studies. This is good for the morale or for setting the mood for an upcoming exam. (One instructor lets a student go after a quota of work is done and another instructor said it's O.K. to go and study after signing in). The Thursday study time we got allowed us after considerable hassle has one condition; providing the instructor does not need the worker. I can't say any more than that about the administration's support.

Gerry C.

Dear Sirs:

RE: Incarceration - the Social Paradox

The title sounds very impressive and to most people, it would only imprint a vague or mystical impression of some sort in their minds. It is my

intention to erase the vagueness from your minds and put a definite impression there.

I am sending this material to the Canadian Penitentiary Service the National Parole Service, the Solicitor General's Department, Members of Parliament, Senators, Schools of Criminology and Sociology, and to interested social groups on the street. By the term "on the street", I mean people outside of the walls of a jail or penitentiary. I'm not. I'm inside. Inside the title and paradox. I'm incarcerated at Dorchester Penitentiary. It is my hope that the variety of people reading the following will REALLY read it and will THINK about it and not just glance at the typewritten words. If you people think that I am wrong, then I hope I will receive the type of response necessary to correct my opinions and attitudes. And to qualify my opinions, I have gained these from nine years of "direct" observation and not just by touring a few jails and penitentiaries for a short time.

BUT, if any of you feel my theory has any validity, then I would like to hear about this also and your thoughts.

At some point in time, in the past, all of us in here have come before the judges of our society and been convicted of an offence and become convicts. It was decreed by these judges that we must be incarcerated. And by this incarceration, our relationships in life are severed. I will carefully agree that in some cases, incarceration may be the only solution but is it really necessary to the extent that the Canadian courts and people are taking it to. No, it is not. Incarceration in Canada today is being poorly used. The Canadian psychology seems lately to be "throw them in jail

and that will solve the problem. Out of sight, out of mind".

According to sociologists, "Relationships with other people are essential and their loss can be traumatic", and I agree wholeheartedly with this! Why do people require relationships with one another? What needs are being expressed? in trying to find answers to these questions, people have generally taken two lines of argument. One, associated with some schools of sociology, has been to assert that relationships provide the individual with his understandings of reality, his moral values, his goals, even his sense of self. Relationships are important because through them society organizes the individual's thinking and acting. The second view, associated more with psychology than sociology, has been that people have a number of needs or requirements which only relationships can satisfy and that without appropriate relationships, the individual will suffer. These needs are intrinsic to the individual, and are not formed by the society in which he lives. They may include needs for recognition, for affection, for power, for prestige, for belonging and many more.

Incarceration over a long period of time can only do one thing --- damage the individual. If you think long-term imprisonment is the deterrence or answer to stopping criminal behaviour, then you are only fooling yourselves, and wasting your time, men's lives and vast amounts of the taxpayers' money. Money that could be used beneficially instead of being a waste. A waste to you people and a waste to us, here inside.

The whole point I want to make to you people is this. Incarceration over a long period brings about a pre-conditioned criminal behaviour upon release. Pre-conditioning is a term of our decade so let's look at its meaning for a second. The American society has had problems with Viet Nam war veterans returning to their society who are not fitting back into their society because they have been pre-conditioned to kill and destroy in war. Some can not reverse this conditioning. The Canadian prison system as it is run now takes the individual (no matter what charge or emotional reason that put him in prison), severs his relationships in life and the effect of prison life pre-conditions him for criminal behaviour for his eventual release. That is the reason for the high recidivism (return rate) among federal prisoners.

I cannot give the exact amount but the budget last year for the Canadian Penitentiary Service was in the range of some Seventy-seven Million Dollars ---a shocking amount, is it not? And yet this costly prison system is a social paradox. By this I mean that the system is creating something (pre-conditioning) that they are trying to stop --- criminal behaviour. Long-term incarceration is therefore not the answer, so let's take another look at the system.

Once Again, I hope this material will make some of you think and that I will receive some response from you people out there.

Larry Harvey, #1867
Dorchester Penitentiary

PAROLE VIOLATION

THE FALLACY of RECIDIVISM

Total Failure ... total success
the man convicted of lawbreaking
in this country is afterward
judged by a fabricated code of
behaviour the judges haven't the
nerve to impose on themselves.



The parolee especially is trapped in this code, and the mechanisms of sentencing and parole are set up to screw him, particularly if he messes up his parole. The man who violates his parole can expect a stiffer sentence if convicted of a new offence. He can also expect to have a tougher time getting another parole; the Parole Board works on the principle of "once bitten, twice shy ..." which on the surface seems reasonable. A man who has his parole pulled can also expect to do more time because time served on parole is only considered as time served on the original sentence if the parole is successfully completed. None of these are particularly just; most of the officials recognize this, yet only the last may be changed in the foreseeable future.

The reasoning behind the Parole Board's instituting of these unprincipled regulations and the public's acceptance of them as proper is that if a man on parole fails, he fails totally. Apart from being sheer nonsense, this probably encourages failure ... certainly it will incite a "nothing to lose" attitude in the parolee who messes up in a minor way.

Nobody fails totally. Ever. Many may seem to fail, many may think they've failed, but no one really does, whether he's a criminal or a good (or uncaught) citizen. Concern here is not with the good citizen; he has his own problems.

The totally black-totally white rationale is one of convenience ... something like totally guilty-totally not guilty (an attitude being questioned increasingly by experts on court process and sentencing). Statistically, which is where Parole Boards of the past usually lived, the black/white division is very convenient. Stats are produced which impress hell out of the average citizen ... who, incidentally, usually isn't aware that statistics-gathering is more an art than a hard scientific endeavour. Hell, for awhile, the Parole Board counted anyone who died while on parole as a successful parolee.

Extension of dubious sentencing procedures, encouragement of unrealistic public opinions, and statistical convenience have all contributed to use of recidivism as a true measure of success or failure.

The contradictions in the measure are tacitly ignored by most officials. We can follow them through the prison and parole system fairly easily though.

- a) A man is sent to prison because he broke the law. Corrections people tell us he broke the law because he had living problems with which he either couldn't cope or chose a criminal alternative with which to cope. He takes these problems to prison with him.
- b) While in prison he supposedly gets the hell corrected out of him. He becomes a good inmate, and becomes eligible for parole. Corrections people tell the Parole Board the guy is now corrected ... maybe some of his problems are now corrected, maybe even major ones, like booze for instance. The con is certainly not going to argue because this would be the same as saying he wanted to stay in prison, which would probably land him in the bug hospital. Very often a lot of the guy's problems are not corrected ... maybe some of them haven't even been identified.
- c) He gets a parole and hits the street. For awhile his act has been cleaned up considerably. Gradually though, he begins to realize that some of his problems are still there and still as unsolvable as ever. He may have stopped drinking, if he was into booze before, but the problem that started his drinking in the first place may still be there to trouble him. He may have been a thief because he had no job skills or because he had unacceptable work habits. He may still have no employable job skills or he may still have poor work habits. In other words, the old problems are still there. Pretty soon they've ground him down, pretty soon he's back in trouble again.

d) Another glaring contradiction, of course, is that along with many old problems which are still around, he may have some new ones to contend with as well; new ones caused by the prisons and the prison system. These are innumerable. Often mentioned are things like ordering meals in a restaurant or going through the rigors of trying to find a job. But there are some which can be more devastating because they are longer lasting and because they have more continuing effect on a guy's life. For instance, what does a man do with his leisure time? Apart from thieves or beer parlor cronies he may have no companions or leisure hobbies and the like. These must be developed and to develop many of them demands the company of other people ... a guy can get awfully tired of going to movies and he can get awfully tired of people who include him at parties or take him bowling, etc. because he's an ex-con. Leisure time companionship for the wrong reasons is often as hard for a parolee to contend with as no companionship at all. What too, of the guy who gets a job but who still must go home every night to a lonely room or furnished suite because he doesn't want to associate with former friends, but doesn't feel accepted or acceptable in other social circles? Soon he sees that a furnished room can be only another prison cell, but he also sees that it lacks a lot of the amenities to be found in other prison cells he has known. Soon following this he may gravitate to old habits with the inevitable finally happening ... arrest, parole revocation.

When a man goes back to the penitentiary it is as if he hadn't changed a lot during his previous imprisonment and his time on the street. A lot of his previous antisocial habits may have been eliminated. Perhaps he had been prone to violence like assaults, but hadn't got into any of that when

he was out because he could now handle these situations ... no matter, he's still regarded as violent.

Hinging success or failure on recidivism alone is crap. It eliminates the high probability that men do change, that changes take time, that vestiges of former ways can never be completely eliminated.

Mention should also be made of a couple of other points. The parolee who commits murder the day after his parole expires is regarded as a success, the man who commits petty theft the day before his parole expires is considered a failure.

And what of so-called success itself. Is the ex-con who lives out his life on welfare a success? Is the ex-con who lives out his life in a tacky little room and in a tedious no-future job a success? Is the ex-con who lives out his life hopping from menial job to menial job a success? Is the ex-con who must live out his life unhappily a success?

Our society cannot lay claim to providing equal opportunity for all its people. Our society deliberately denies access to many opportunities to many people. Here the ex-con generally is no different in his situation than most people in Canada who must endure low incomes, poor education, and virtually no opportunity for vertical social mobility. Only fools now say these people brought these problems on themselves or, conversely, that the opportunities are always there if the people have the initiative to take advantage. We know that not only are these people denied access to

opportunities, they are deliberately prepared by our socio-economic and socio-political institutions to accept their lowly lot. Success and failure in this context becomes a tragic joke and recidivism doesn't figure in anywhere.

We must move our heads into a space new to many of us. We must accept that many of the problems of parolees and other ex-cons are not rooted solely in their individual actions and motivations, they extend downward into the roots of our social lives ... all of us. Once in the community the ex-offender has more problems to work out than most people ... and he must work them out damn fast or his parole is apt to be pulled. But his problems are not much different than those faced daily by many other citizens, and like those of many other citizens his are too much affected by forces outside his control for him to be able to solve them. They are not personal problems: they are social problems.

The question arises in this age of specialization; who is best suited cope with social problems of such magnitude? The elected politicians have demonstrated abysmal ineptitude in the past and in that they are not about to demonstrate non-support for the system which provides them their positions, they are not going to do anything in the future.

The social workers by their very training and work conditions are committed to perpetuating these problems so that they may continue to treat the victim, and many self-help groups are no different. However, we are seeing a growing number of social workers who have not only recognized this but are

active in directly addressing the problems themselves. But not enough of them, not nearly enough. The people who are trying to make the best of a bad situation should realize that the best bad situation is still a bad situation. If as much time is spent treating causes of problems as is spent treating the effects of problems we'd be much better off.

The con in his present circumstance is powerless to initiate and follow through activity on a project scale, and more often than not the ex-con is far too busy trying to get his own life together to worry about broader matters. Indeed, to the extent he must labour to adjust to a community (for which the prison was presumably supposed to ready him) he is deprived of the right to participate in the community's broader matters.

Despite this, we must accept that quick, wide-sweeping innovative change must be implemented, not least of these a strong assault on that bastion of Canadian public opinion, public ignorance.

These are all old stories. Almost everyone who reads this will recognize them as such. Almost all will opt for the gradualism characteristic of those who "work within the system".

More and more in these times, cons are being permitted to go to the public but too often these encounters skirt the issues. They skirt them by only describing them, as if description alone was change itself. Luncheon club seagulls and seminar sitters must become more than that, they must become actively and personally directly involved in rectifying what are in reality community problems.

a look at MANDATORY SUPERVISION

EARLE
GRIFFIN

Mandatory Supervision, that monstrous piece of legislation, enacted to appease those on the street who feel every inmate is just biding his time, waiting for the opportunity to commit further depredations against them, was instituted some four years ago, to give some form of supervision to inmates who were not being released on parole, but were, nevertheless, being released.

The rationale behind such a move is acceptable. If an inmate under supervision has a better chance of staying out of prison, we are all for it. If one-third of his sentence can be served in the community and show favorable results, by all means let us do that. If one-third will show favorable results, does it not follow that two-thirds may be even more favorable. If one-half a program will succeed, will not the other half to a greater extent? If one year of mandatory supervision will affect some beneficial changes in the life styles of those exposed to it, it follows surely that two years of that exposure will have double the results.

I am naive, perhaps, where corrections are concerned. I should not be after all these years, but, it has always been my belief that programs are instituted in an attempt to change the offender. I am not too sure I believe that any more. There seems to be a concerted drive from all directions to ensure there are enough inmates available to stock all the programs instituted. Every move on the part of one department to counter the upward swing of recidivism is met with another move to increase the prison populations. Often these moves are made by people on the same side of the fence. The relaxation of the criteria for parole coincided with the recent crackdown in the West on drug offenders. Release a thousand and arrest a thousand. Make certain there are enough bodies around to justify the expenditure of a hundred million dollars plus each year. Mandatory Supervision is helping to keep the prisons full and the Chairman of THE TASK FORCE ON RELEASE OF INMATES, James K. Hugessen, realizes this and comments on it in his committee's report to the Solicitor General.

Quote: We recognize that there are some inconsistencies in saying that a man cannot be released on parole only to release him under Mandatory Supervision on the grounds he needs it and would presumably respond to it. The evidence suggests that men with previous records such as the majority of those sent to the penitentiary are not in the end deterred from new offences by the threat of time. They are only marginally sanctioned to conform to parole conditions by the threat of revocation, though they generally conform to the obviously visible conditions of reporting to the parole supervisor and to the police. Thus the main protection provided to society is the protection while the MAN IS IMPRISONED. ---Unquote

Great expectations!!! Society can be protected by releasing an inmate, placing restrictions on him that you are certain he will be unable to conform to, and then to re-imprison him for failing to meet those restrictions. A twofold purpose---supplying grist for the corrections mill and at the same time protecting society.

Why bother with Mandatory Supervision if its purpose is to place the offender in a position where he can be returned to prison to protect the public,---he is in prison prior to Mandatory Supervision and if society can best be served by leaving him there, by all means, that is the answer.

Throughout the Hugessen Report I detect a lack of concern for the inmate. He appears as the central character in a play mainly to provide the reason for that play. His role is secondary to the public and certainly to that of the various agencies entrusted with his treatment.

Hugessen may have been right when he said we are not deterred from new offences by the threat of time. I was somewhat impressed, though, with the seven-year term awarded me for possession of a minute amount of heroin. (Non-users are held in short shrift). I am equally impressed with the fact that Mr. Hugessen and company will let me go after two-thirds of my time, simply to re-arrest me for failing to abide by restrictions I have agreed to in the first place and return me to the prison from whence I came, merely to protect the public. This is more Orwellian than Orwell and should Franz Kafka hear of it, we are in for a pleasurable evening with his book on the subject.

Hugessen goes on to tell us how little this will hurt the inmate. He says, "the cost to the inmate can be kept sufficiently low to warrant the continuation of such protection to society." I am not too sure I like that little phrase. The realization is already apparent to the Hugessen Committee that the inmate will not benefit from the experiment but that does not matter since the protection of society is paramount. Not only will the inmate not benefit, he will be harmed but the cost can be kept "sufficiently low". Programs designed to "cost me" frighten me.

I am still of the opinion it is the business of prisons to effect a change in the attitudes of

those who are in their keeping. The concept of locking prisoners up simply to protect the public has been discarded many years ago by everyone who has bothered to give it a thought. Canada still leads the world in wheat production and the incarceration of offenders. We read every day of foreign visitors investigating almost every aspect of our economy with the view to taking home new ideas. I cannot recall anyone from another country checking out our prison system. Maybe they are missing a good thing. No country that injects over a hundred million dollars into the economy through the prison business can be all wrong.

Who has whatever answers are necessary? We have not decided what the problem is yet. I thought there were a number of people seriously concerned about the rising populations in our prisons. That does not seem to be the case at all. The number of ex-offenders on the street is causing some great concern. Are we to believe the programs set up to help inmates become ex-inmates are only disguised forms of insurance that the ex-inmate will become an inmate again? Does the public really demand so much protection, or is the government, through its various agencies dealing with inmates and ex-inmates, telling the public that protection is necessary. Statistical and empirical evidence must be available to support the hard line the government is taking. None of this evidence has been presented and in its absence we must conclude it does not exist.

Is the protection the public is getting equal to the protection they require? I feel the public

(cont'd on pg.32)

Traffic Form

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ing drugs

31.

er RCMP sgt. convicted

Drug investigations

Drug hearing
set for April

askatoon group protests
questionable' police tactics

Misuse of drugs
said health hazard

Balloon used
to carry hash

Man fined for possession

obituaries

is over-protected simply to perpetuate the corrections octopus. Some months ago, writing in the Transition, Stanley Klyne presented the theory of the necessary criminal and supported his stand with some interesting observations. Crime and Its Treatment in Canada had an interesting chapter by Tadeusz Grygier about this very subject. Deviant behaviour has long been recognized as necessary in order that everyone have something by which they can judge their own behaviour. Hugessen recognizes that treatment of the offender is secondary to protection of the public. I am not too sure I can accept the protection theory. It is becoming increasingly obvious that the perpetuation of this multi-million dollar prison business is the paramount thing. If public protection was the primary concern, the criminal would simply be locked up. The public would have their protection, and would probably rebel at such an antiquated approach. So, small programs are inaugurated to allay the fears of those who question policy and the farce goes on. Arrest the offender, imprison him, release him only to re-imprison him. The agencies created to handle the paperwork involved are happy. The people are happy with this system. They have seen the offender imprisoned, they have seen the ex-inmate violate his supervision, putting him back where he belongs. The corrections people have enough inmates to keep the wheel of their complex turning. From where then, are the objections coming?

Obviously, it is from the inmate. Small wonder there are complaints from this quarter. When a man serving a lengthy sentence begins to believe he is serving that sentence to keep a large organization in business, he must be shown he is mistaken or some changes made within the system. Once you show

the inmate that all the things to which he is subjected are designed to help him stay out of jail, he will be on your side. When you tell him Mandatory Supervision is designed to ensure his return to prison, he will begin to wonder what it is all about. Now I am not too sure.

If Mandatory Supervision was designed to cope with the recidivism problem, we should have more of it. If it was designed to return the ex-inmate to prison, it should be rejected. Replacing the remission system with a program designed to help keep our prisons filled with repeaters cannot be accepted as the model by which we can plan future programs. Inmates of today are not the ignorant, retarded, subnormal psychopaths they were one hundred years ago. They are younger, better educated, and more alert and aware than their brothers of the last century. They see what is happening in corrections and are not amused. They do not want to fight the system. They do want to change it. They would like to see a system designed with their welfare in mind. They do become somewhat alarmed when programs like Mandatory Supervision are inaugurated; especially, when the Chairman of the TASK FORCE ON RELEASE OF INMATES tells us it is designed to bring us back to prison.

Dave Blackburn, writing in the INSIDE NEWS, an inmate publication from Drumheller Institution suggests that 80% of the inmates there could be released forthwith effecting the saving of some five million dollars a year. He may be right but I would hesitate to go that far. That a number of prisoners should be released immediately is not out of the question. Mandatory Supervision is not the answer. When men are released from prison

it is hoped they will stay out. Mandatory Supervision is designed to bring a man back to prison so it should be discarded and replaced with a program designed to reduce prison populations.

The Hugessen Report is not all bad. They suggest that any time spent on the street on parole or under Mandatory Supervision count against the sentence being served.

Thanks, fellas.....

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CRIME.....

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HACKSAW



STONY MOUNTAIN

Everybody knows the penitentiaries' Ombuds-woman is pretty much a waste of time if a firm, fast decision is needed over a grievance but the administration in Stony is uptight enough about her potential that they're trying to administrate her out of existence.

Grievance procedures demand proper forms, all carefully filled out and filed on a rigid time schedule --- Stony administrators, under Director Desrocher, the man who turned Fort Saskatchewan jail to its former state as a hell-hole, are dragging their feet at giving the

cons the grievance forms. If the con hasn't got the form, he can't file a grievance. So, anybody getting transferred into Stony better take along a supply of grievance forms --- not only aren't any available there, but from all reports every inmate could use a bushel-full.

PRINCE ALBERT

A recent press reception at the penitentiary had roast suckling pig on the menu. Good to see they have a use for them after all.

EVERYWHERE

If a young dedicated gung ho bull is bothering you these days, this line is for you to him:
 "Hey, don't I remember seeing you as a hostage when we ripped apart Kingston and killed those guys?"
 (A bit irresponsible maybe, but it makes life easier)

PRINCE ALBERT

A con thrown into the hole for possessing a copy of Discussion. Nice to see that Director Ellis shows the view of most people who know what's happening ... he too sees Discussion as a crime. We hear this has changed though, now it's being inflicted on the cons. This mag is an interesting commentary on censorship in prisons --- even it must pass the Commissioner's muster. We hope he doesn't rely on it too much for prison information ... because it's not even good Goebbels.

MILLHAVEN

The only thing more gruesome than the performance of the bulls here is the performance of their union right across the country. Used to be that unions led the way in social reform, now they lead the way in social rot. We can't look to other unions to get them to clean up their act either because almost every union in the country has lined up for the status quo.

EVERYWHERE

The new federal-provincial agreement on transfer of inmates bodes well for federal inmates but may aggravate the situation for provincial inmates. Federal cons may now take the advantage of pre-release facilities in the areas where the feds have none to offer. On the other hand, provincial cons may now be threatened with transfer to federal joints if they hassle provincial jail administrators, a transfer which in most provinces would be from good to bad.

EVERYWHERE to everyone

On May 4, 1974, a 19-year old prisoner, Mervin Johnston, was killed in the Prince Albert Penitentiary. His death ended an episode which exemplifies the callous environment of a maximum security penitentiary.

Mervin Johnston was not really an unusual prisoner; he was quiet and sincere about most of the things he did. He worked in the garage and at night attended meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous. He took the AA philosophy seriously. But because of his job placement, Mervin, who had only been in the penitentiary for about three months and was not yet "con-wise", was to get in trouble. Other inmates asked him to bring solvents which he had access to into the cell block for "sniffing". He complied.

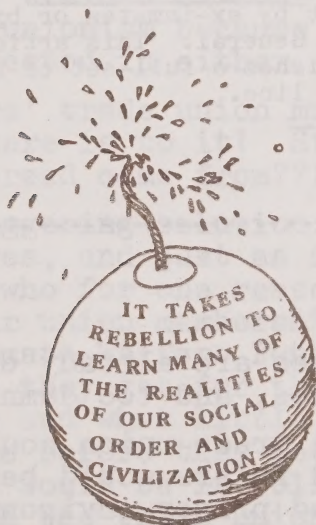
But after a few days of watching those for whom he'd brought in the solvents and seeing the damage they caused to themselves by sniffing them, Mervin began to have doubts about what he was doing. Then, one night the inmate who lived next door to Mervin, after a solvent-sniffing session, became depressed and slashed his wrists. Mervin made up his mind at that point that for the good of the others he'd bring in no more solvents.

But Mervin Johnston was not a popular guy ---he didn't have an in-crowd to turn to. In short, he was a nobody, looked upon as a "harmless ding". The others threatened to kill him if he didn't continue to bring in solvents. He turned to everyone who would listen for help --- those at work as well as the members of AA. Most told him that they had problems of their own and couldn't do anything about his. One man suggested that he move from the cell block that he was living in to another one where he'd be away from those who were pressuring him. He went to the dome keeper and asked for a transfer, but the dome keeper is a busy man and nothing was done. He went to his classification

officer and asked to be transferred to Drumheller Institution, but he was ignored.

The one person that Mervin might have called a friend lived in a quiet dormitory. He tried to have Mervin moved to that dormitory, away from the cell blocks. His efforts were rejected.

On the final afternoon, Mervin Johnston took off his clothes and stepped into the shower in his cell block after work. It's not known if he saw the man who came in and knifed him. Mervin staggered out to the end of the tier and died.



Organizing A Prisoners' Trade Union

by Saskatoon Editorial Staff

Editor's Note: During the past few months we have been printing a series of articles to familiarize prison inmates with the idea of a prisoners' trade union, an organization which will have the legal recognition and the influence to bargain for the betterment of prison conditions on behalf of inmates collectively and which, more importantly, will be run by the inmates themselves -- not by ex-inmates or by charitable societies or by the Solicitor General. This article continues that series. Any inmate who wishes a full set of the articles can get it by dropping us a line.

Prison inmates are already over-ruled --- too damn many rules, and too damn many rulers.

A prisoners' trade union could mean that a few more rules and rulers would be added to the already cluttered prison environment. However if the union is carefully structured from the beginning it could mean that while there may be some new rules, it would be the inmates who made them --- not recommended them to the bulls, but

MADE THEM by themselves for themselves. This month's article discusses some of the ways inmates can put together such a structure and ensure that it stays together.

There are two foundation stones in every trade union. A prisoners' trade union would be no different. The union's constitution is one, and the other is the union's source of money.

The second is the easiest to understand. A prisoners' trade union would be the prisoners' bargaining agent with the government. It wouldn't be in the prisoners' best interests if its union, including salaries of officers, was financed by the government directly. Obviously private industry isn't going to provide financing for the sake of getting better trained ex-cons or for the sake of strengthening unionism because private industry isn't too interested in either.

A prisoners' trade union must be self-supporting ---that's all there is to it! Staggering problem: where does the bread come from??!

Not so staggering solution: it comes from the inmates themselves, and just as important it comes from ex-inmates who for one reason or another want to maintain their union membership. Inmates already kick into the Inmate Welfare Fund whether they want to or not. What they get for their money is precious little and what little there is must be OKed by the bulls before they get it. Conceivably, the Welfare Fund would be in full control of the inmates through the trade union. Moreover the trade union would be in much better position than

any Inmate Committee in any single prison to get the government to match double or triple every dollar contributed by inmates. The union could do this by making it a contract condition just as employer pension contributions are a condition of most street union contracts. Once a union has been awarded its charter, financing doesn't become much of a problem.

The real money problem is getting the bread for travelling the rocky legal road to getting the charter. Lawyers are needed, civil liberties people are needed, and labour people are needed, and people are needed on the street to do the shitwork. A lot of these people will volunteer their time, expertise, and effort. Some will have to be paid, because it is "against the ethics of their profession" to work for free. Others will need travel money because most of the court actions will be fought in Ottawa. We think most of this can come in as contributions. We think the street trade unions would be receptive. Maybe even a few civil liberties and ex-cons groups. Maybe even a few cons and private citizens. The pavements would have to be pounded to put together the money, even though not all that much is needed. We should add that anyone who thinks the Solicitor General's Department would aid at the organizing stage "in a spirit of cooperation" is ready for the fast freight to an RMC. It'll be fought all the way!

The big questions in any con's mind about a union are what it can do for him (a) to get him onto the street and (b) to make his time easier but more useful to him on the inside. We'll get to these in future articles but for now we want to look at another important question. "Who's going to control the union and who's going to control them?"

The union must be controlled by the guys doing time, and as much as possible these controls must be localized to individual institutions. Not only will this make the union's affects swift and direct it will allow the cons in the individual joints lots of voice in union affairs. The trade unionism model we looked at hardest was that of British unions.

There the shop stewards are given a lot of flexibility. For this reason there are many more quick, short-run strikes, than in Canada, but there is a lot more union control of shops over there and the unions can move fast to clean up minor local disputes.

The trickiest part of the union structuring is the mechanism that ensures the union cannot be taken over by street people, whether the street people are ex-cons or "good" citizens. The ex-con gets out of touch too fast with the joint conditions and "good" citizens rarely know what's really happening ... and most people on the street have their own axes to grind anyway.

What makes this a tricky problem is that some people on the street will be necessary. How many it's hard to say. What they'll be doing is easier. Labor relations people, legal people, arbitrators, and so on will be in demand. They can be elected or they can be hired. No hard and fast rule can be applied here, but it should be said that it's easier to control someone you've hired than someone you've elected or someone who has volunteered. Volunteers have to be treated with kid gloves, especially if you're dependant on them. If a union has the bucks, volunteers should be the last consideration.

The other part of the "control" problem is which inmates? Here it gets very sticky indeed. We are pretty much at a loss here. We can only point out a few considerations that will have to be coped with if the union thing is going to have even half a chance to work. There won't be much room in the joint's elected group for crumbs and prison administrators' yes-men. Frankly, no union body will be effective if guys go for a bunch like those clogging most Inmate Committees right now. Because the Committees have little power, except as a few of their members can "push the right administration buttons". Guys doing a lot of time are probably the best bet because they have somewhat more concern with what's happening in the joints. With articles coming in from inmates to Transition ---this is just an example --- we have found that long-termers and multiple recidivists are most apt to be accurate. This isn't to say first-timers or short-termers (under 5 years) are totally unreliable; only that they seem pre-occupied with paroles and the like, and not much concerned with how the prison affects them and, ironically, how it affects their eventual making it on the street. Corrections people (and short-timers) would probably argue this ---we are only stating from our experience though.

All of the things we've been talking about here can, in a sense, be legislated for themselves by the cons when they make up their union constitution. The constitution as the most crucial document union members will put together. It will determine whether or not the cons will control their union. And it will determine whether or not the cons will at long last have an organized voice in their own affairs.

HOW to COOK

a red HERR,
N g

The Canadian Penitentiary Service's hierarchy has consistently found convenient scapegoats to blame for its inaction. A favorite has been "the public". The public is punitive, we're told; it doesn't want prison reform and rehabilitation programs. It wants more severe measures of punishment.

Lately this contention has become a bit hard to swallow amidst the public clamor for effective rehabilitation programmes. In fact, rehabilitation has become a motherhood issue and not even the most punitive traditionalist in Ottawa would be inclined to speak against it. Everybody seems to agree that prison should work towards building good citizens from anti-social outcasts. So the penitentiary administrators must find another scapegoat quickly.

"Old guards". Suddenly the inaction and disruptive problems, especially in Millhaven, are laid at the feet of long-term (evidently) security staff members. And how can these employees deny it? It's impossible for them to point to any good that they've done for inmates --- their job expressly forbids anything constructive! The most any security staff member can do for an inmate is to let him get away with an infraction of the rules. There ends his role in humanitarianism --- far short of even intruding into rehabilitation.

It might also be suggested that guards, young or old, are very likely to take their cues from their leader, the head of security. It would be contrary to the dynamics of organizations for them to act autonomously to any great extent. So "old guards" should make handy scapegoats.

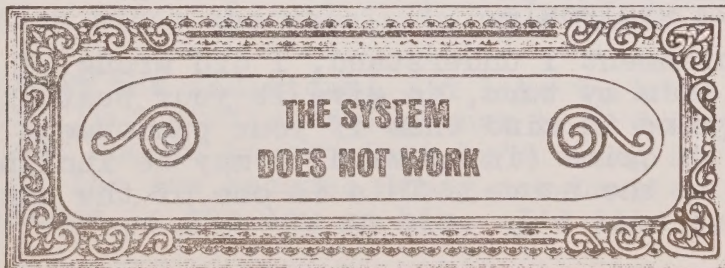
But what of those penitentiaries where there is no problem of conflict (or at least no great problem) with long term security staff? What of the Saskatchewan Penitentiary, for instance? Might we expect to find another red herring to cover up for the administration's inaction? Certainly.

"Overcrowding". The Sask. Penitentiary is terribly overcrowded and nothing good can happen till this condition eases (though it probably won't in this century). Unofficial sources claim that the Acting Director last fall was reprimanded for saying that the Sask. Pen. had once held 800 inmates and that he didn't see the present 500 as any great problem. It's easy to see why his popularity would slip for such a public statement. In any case, when all else fails, there's the old standby ...

"Lack of funds". "Funds", as always, meaning the tax-payers' money. This is perhaps the weakest (and smelliest) red herring since the C.P.S.'s budget has risen dramatically in the last few years until it is well over the \$110 million mark. Most of this, it could be shown, has gone into tighter security measures --- measures that have passed the point of practicality and entered the realm of insanity/inanity.

Fused into all this is always the vague field of "security". That single word has been used to explain away so much inaction that it's become a "God" answer --- not to be questioned. Just why security and rehabilitation can't exist simultaneously --- even in the Alice in Wonderland environment of maximum security penitentiaries --- hasn't really been explained.

All these devious brush-offs, I believe, come from two factors. One is the belief that a smoke-screen (propaganda) is as effective as real action. Effective programs are unnecessary as long as people can be made to think they exist. The second, and root cause, is the old human tendency to maintain the personal security that comes with the status quo. Therefore, the aim of the person seeking real change should be to disrupt that personal security. Right?



I just wanna be let outa here

I'm here because of a property offence, just like half the other guys in here. This is my view of why I'm here. Other people tell me I'm being punished because of my crime. Still other people tell me I'm some kind of social cripple ---they tell me I live outside the law because I can't live inside it. A few other people tell me that I don't want to live inside the law. And a smattering tell me that the law must be violated if it's to be viable, therefore the social system has built-in inequities to ensure laws are violated.

All of these are pretty interesting and I can sort of see how they all affect me. This is what bugs me: all of these theories which are babble and BS and coffee break chatter to prison people, judges, police, and the parole officers are affecting my life directly. I don't like other people's politics and philosophies affecting me if I can't have something to say about it. I mean, I may have some politics and a philosophy of my own and just because I happen to have been caught stealing shouldn't give any institution the right to mess with them wholesale.

Punishment I understand, I did wrong, I got caught, it's my turn, so give it your best lick ... but keep in mind that if your punishment exceeds my crime (in my mind) I may be inclined to even up the score. This is one of the hazards

you and I have to contend with if we use the "eye for an eye" punishment philosophy. Also, you should keep in mind that the final decision, no matter how you cut it, isn't yours, it's mine. Your present control will end the day I'm released. If I decide you owe me, then I may also decide to foreclose the debt. On the other hand, I may decide the debt isn't that much, so I may just write you off as my loss. You can argue that you're the first victim and once you've done to me as I've done to you everything is O.K. ... and you're right ... just don't do more to me than I've done to you.

Right now you're doing more to me. You're trying to correct me. This would be O.K. if I agreed that there was something in me that needed correcting or, and this is more important, if I agreed that you were the best people to do the job. This last bit is my big squabble. You haven't been able to get your own shit together, so I don't think you can help me with mine ... and I'm not sure I want you to anyway.

By "your own shit" I mean two things. First, I mean it at the bare-bones-strip-off-your-I-work-for-the-institution rationale and, secondly, I mean it at the institution level too. Same applies to the general public. You have at least two faces, the one that is presented to the world and the one that turns the wheels in your head.

From the individual I'd like to know how he personally justifies doing what he's doing to me. It's not enough to say that he's doing it in the name of the law because I may not have as much confidence in the law as him. I'd like to know

how come he has so much confidence in it. I'm not asking him to show me that the law is perfect, but I don't want him using the laws' imperfections to justify his own poor work or his failure to respond positively to the need for change in some laws and the social system the laws protect and sustain.

The individuals seem to justify what they do by saying that the institutions want this and this and this done and they in turn are only doing what the public wants done. I can't buy that. Justice institutions like the courts and the prisons are too remote from the general public for them to reflect what the general public wants. If they weren't, how come the administrators are so damn careful about what they tell people. I mean if they were really doing what the public wanted, you'd think they'd be tripping over each other to tell the public everything is groovy instead of tripping over each other in their effort to tell the public as little as possible.

When some people criticize institutions they always finish off by saying that the institutions are really only the people who run them or work for them. And then they sigh, as if they see the huge task of changing all those institution.people and are awestruck by it. Of course, the one place where they don't see need for change is in themselves, but that's another story.

Institutions are the people who operate them. They're a lot more than that, so much more than that that they almost exist in their own right. Who runs them becomes incidental because people

are the cheapest commodity going. For example, look at the vast human resource thrown into jails, prisons and mental hospitals every year. Canadians don't seem to have too much respect for themselves as people. It was the Russian, Dostoevski, who wrote that "the degree of civilization in a society can be judged by entering its prisons."

Institutions are also rules. People come and go but institutionalized rules seem to live on forever. The people who go to work for institutions usually are there because they like things nice and stable and this means unchanging. It's hard to say whether the philosophy of an institution comes from its rules or vice versa. The prison situation here is classic confusion. We have punishers and correctors, correctors who also want to punish, and punishers who also want to protect, and this mish-mash shows up in the rules. Add to these the bunch that are protecting the public, the most vainglorious bunch of all. All of these conflict with each other. Rules also conflict with each other and sometimes they conflict with the realities of the situation too. Yet we still have them despite this. We have guys who are considered

maximum security inmates one day who are free citizens the next day, and who don't go back to criminal activity when they do get out. How is this rationalized by the prison perpetuators? Easy, they invoke other rules and when worse comes to worst they tell us the prisons are overcrowded. Overcrowding is a pat answer. They didn't have it ten years ago, but the same conflict existed, the need to explain the conflict didn't exist then though, so at that time they weren't on the hook for an answer anyway.

What about inside the prisons? What about the set of rules that seeks to give prisoners a chance to develop community ties when it conflicts with the other set of rules that allows administrators to arbitrarily throw inmates in the hole for no expressed reason for indeterminate periods of time. Some people say this isn't done; I know it is, so who do you believe ... and how do you handle the people with the kind of morality that can say, "tain't so," when they personally damn well know "'tis so," and how do I handle them when they tell me I need correcting?

I'm not really blaming the bulls for this; not the cops or the courts either. I'm not blaming anybody.

Because when you look at it all, you see that the cops, the courts, and the bulls are only following the lead provided them by the rest of society in the way the rest runs itself. In relation to what the sociologists call dysfunction, and what I call contradiction; the institution workers are right in line with the general public. Incompetence, ignorance, irresponsibility, and injurious self-seeking are social norms in this country. If you show concern for something that the public has handed over to its institutions, you're written off as a nut or a commie or a revolutionary but nobody really thinks about what your concern is unless you can show them that it burns their personal ass too. Hell, most of us cons are the same way too. Canadians seem to think that because they've got institutions to look after this problem, the problems are going to get looked after without citizen involvement. Look, for example, at education in Canada. Here is where the citizens really blew

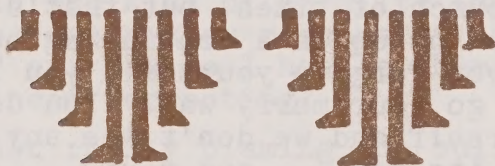
their responsibility and this, like prisons, has deteriorated to the point where the "experts" are strong enough now to tell concerned citizens to hit the road because "you're just laymen who don't know what's happening."

All this is really just great for the bureaucrats and their running dogs, but what about me and the many others like me, the people who are the bones thrown these dogs. Why us? We screwed up once, maybe a whole bunch of times, but that's no reason for you to screw us up on a continuing basis. When you err, you forgive yourself, you laugh at your error and go your merry way. You don't try to correct yourself and we don't see any government agency busting its ass ... and yours ... to correct you. Why us? Because we're weakest, the most vulnerable, and that's the only reason.

We're tired of your BS. But we know you're not going to lay off us. You can't lay off us because if you didn't have us to fuck over you'd be the weak ones. Personally, I don't want to fight you, but fight you I will if you don't begin cleaning up your act. You'll win, of course, because you're stronger ... but I will have known that if our positions had been reversed you would have been treated humanly ... and you can't make this claim ... nor can you point to your history and say you did it in the past, because you haven't.

You call us animals, yet you're in part responsible for our condition. Don't bitch if we're bitter.

There's a lot of anger in these few lines, more anger than I feel. What I really feel is frustration. Because when you get right down to the nuts of it, I'm just a very tired person who just wants to be let outa here ...



WASTED
LIVES\$

les ateliers dominiques

Inmates being released to the Ottawa-Hull area may be interested to know that an ex-inmate group is presently operating a halfway house with employment capabilities for residents. Financed by the Specialized Social Agency of Hull, Inc., of its activities and objectives, the center has this to report to inmates:

Though subsidized by the province, our personnel is by a vast majority made up of ex-inmates who now devote their efforts towards helping inmates re-establish themselves into the community. Our sentences in institutions have varied from three years to life. We don't claim to be angels of mercy that can, by some miracle eliminate all the problems you will face after your release.

What we are is convinced, convinced that ex-inmates can live honest and productive lives when returned to society if society can provide them with the means of proving themselves. We feel that our center is such a means.

The first thing our center can do for you is to provide you with employ-

ment so that you can support yourself and, or, your family immediately upon release. But our aim is to help you re-adapt to life in the community by regaining good work habits.

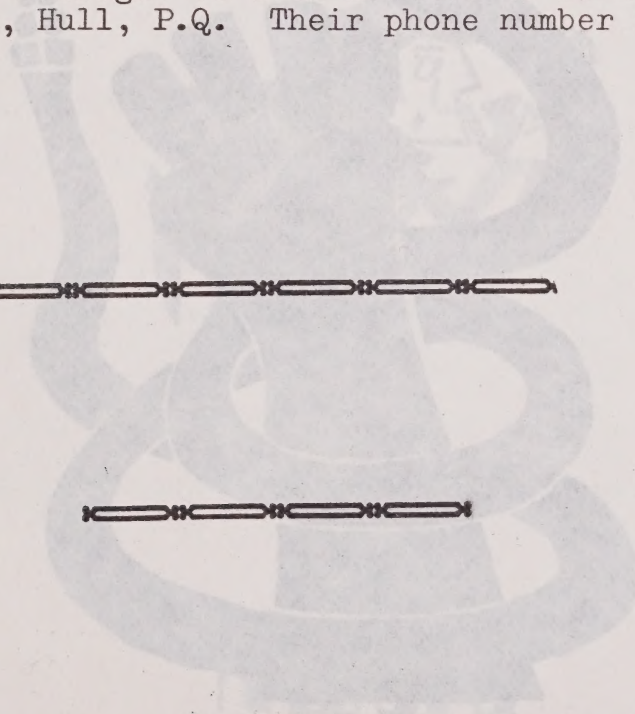
In order to realize these aims, we have at your disposition a large workshop in which we carry out refinishing and upholstery work. We also have a group that works outside the shop. This work consists of such things as interior house painting as well as renovation.

If you think our organization could be of help to you, please don't hesitate to contact any member of our staff. We will answer your letters immediately and will do our utmost to meet you while we are visiting your particular institution.

This center is not unlike many others which are being developed across the country. The needs it seeks to satisfy such as providing flexible employment in line with ex-offenders' usual skills, support from others who have used the center to adapt themselves to the community and from those who are still striving to adapt, support from community specialists, and back-up leisure-time activity and opportunity ... all of these being a recognition of the need for change in a life style rather than need for elimination of a few socially-unacceptable habits. Sincerity and initiative are the only demands placed on ex-offenders, and these are demands which are eventually going to be placed on him by society anyway, therefore he loses nothing --- but can gain immeasurably.

Another feature of Les Ateliers Dominique which it shares with most other ex-inmate organizations is that it worked for several years without benefit of financing --- no salaries for the staff people, no operating money for rents and phones and workshop equipment. Certainly the staff people have demonstrated their sincerity and initiative, and for that alone are worth serious consideration by ex-cons going into their area --- consideration not only as people who can help out, but also as a group it might be good to work with voluntarily.

The people to contact for more information are: Guy Ferragne or Yvon Lorente at 20 rue Cousineau, Hull, P.Q. Their phone number is 770-4937.



Transition





Award

ANOTHER FORM OF TRANSITION

Transition's CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY AWARD this month goes to Saskatoon's Chief of Police James Kettles for his intrepid bluster, untiring bombast, and zealous pursuit of all that is pornographically lewd, loose, lecherous, and lascivious in his fair town.

No need to be a god unto himself when Saskatoon's citizenry will bow before him, our pontifical and ponderous award winner, our glorious Torquemada of public morality, fearlessly lays about with reactionary ruminations and alarmist diatribes, the better to gull from the taxpayers fat police budgets when there is no crime capable of his solving.

Like too few of our public personalities he has bravely chosen to cast aside the common sense and public responsibility which so hampers others from using their positions to babble bigotry and monger morality to the masses.

Not for your many travesties of truth do we grant you our award, Chief Kettles; rather, it is for your spectacular personification of kettles calling the pots black

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